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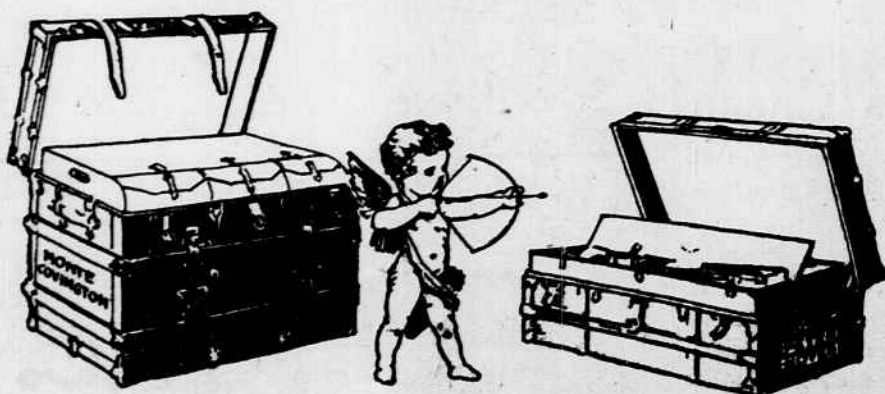
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Whose Trunk Did Cupid Travel In?

MAKES HOT RETORT TO JUDICIAL ATTACK

Hughes Answers Insinuations Regarding His Relinquishment of the Judicial Ermine.

PURPOSE IS TO UPHOLD THE HONOR OF AMERICA

Tells Republicans at Saratoga Why He Did Not Advise Flibuster Against Adamson Law.

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y., Sept. 29.—Richard Olney's criticism of Charles E. Hughes and his campaign was answered last night by Mr. Hughes in a speech before the republican unofficial state convention, which repeatedly brought the delegates to their feet to cheer and applaud.

"The distinguished former Secretary of State said in substance that I do not regret the judicial ermine and appear in the motley garb of a seeker for office," Mr. Hughes said. "I did doff the judicial ermine, and I do not regret it. It fell from my shoulders unbidden."

"No American need apologize for being a candidate for office, least of all I, who had no desire to return to politics, but there came a summons no honorable man could refuse. I did assume the garb, call it motley or what you will. I am now before the American people seeking the highest office in its gift."

"For what purpose? Not that I covet power, but I do covet the opportunity, if it is afforded, to maintain American rights and American honor."

Adamson Law Discussed.

The record of the administration in connection with the Adamson law, Mr. Hughes continued, was a "record of humiliation." He read from documents to uphold his contention that thousands of firms and corporations besought the administration to make inquiry a month before the crisis.

He had not urged republican senators to filibuster against the bill in Congress, he said, because, "for one thing," he did not believe in filibustering, and because, if the majority in Congress had determined to pass the bill, there was no reason why it should be delayed. The administration, he asserted, "in the closing days acted swiftly" and could not now cry out that a "republican candidate 1,000 miles away should have saved it from carrying out its fixed determination."

The nominee read to the convention correspondence between Chairman Newlands of the Senate interstate commerce committee, Harry A. Wheeler, chairman of the committee on railroad situation of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, and President Wilson—none of the letters was from the President, but he was addressed in the correspondence to uphold his contention that 3,000 firms and corporations in the country had asked the President to take action before the threatened strike situation became acute. Mr. Hughes also quoted an extract from the President's address to Congress on the subject, to support his claim that the bill should not have been passed.

A question was asked by a former Secretary of State, Mr. Olney, whom I have always admired and respected and whose record presents a singular contrast to that of the present administration, springs to his defense in his hour of trial. With his ability I assume he has done the best that can be done.

"He says, referring to the recent railroad situation, that I object not to the averted strike, but to the mode of its accomplishment, to wit: By the threat of a strike within a time too short for due consideration of necessary legislation. I am not prepared to admit the necessity of wage increases by law, but I do object in every fiber of my being to legislation under duress. I object to the surrender of the executive to force. That is the path of disaster. If the distinguished ex-Secretary of State desires to take the nation along that path I will not accompany him."

"He asks why I did not urge twenty-eight republican senators to filibuster to the last ditch. Well, I do not believe in filibustering for one thing. If Congress, through its majority, was determined to pass the bill, there was no reason whatever why its action should be merely delayed by filibustering. Arguments along this line really come to this—that in some way the administration should have been saved from itself."

President "Throws Up His Hands."

"The truth is that the executive destroyed the moral strength of the situation when he threw up his hands, yielded the principle of arbitration to the Congress demanding the railway wage bill as the price of peace. Congress so far as the moral of the situation was concerned ratified a surrender already made. The administration chose its ground; it selected its ground carefully and with manifest view to partisan expediency. In the closing days it acted with swiftness and it cannot now cry that a republican candidate a thousand miles away should have saved it from carrying out its fixed determination."

Mr. Hughes' citation from President Wilson's address to Congress was a brief one. The part quoted followed the President's declaration that "I yield to no man in firm adherence alike of conviction and of purpose to the principle of arbitration in industrial disputes," and was a part of the same sentence, which was as follows: "But matters have come to a sudden crisis in this particular dispute and the country has been caught unprovided with any practicable means of enforcing that conviction in practice, by whose fault we will not now stop to inquire."

After declaring that "there was American business, the railroad crisis, asking for an inquiry," Mr. Hughes continued:

"A sudden crisis, with no opportunity for inquiry. If the administration had desired to know the facts before action, it had abundant opportunity on the solicitation of the business of the United States."

"That is the administration's record," Mr. Hughes said, after declaring that the administration could not cry out that a republican candidate should have saved it from "carrying out its fixed determination."

"And I submit to the American people that it is a record of humiliation."

"The distinguished former Secretary of State, said in substance that I do not regret the judicial ermine and appear in the motley garb of an ordinary seeker for office. I did doff the judicial ermine, and I submit to you that you know, and every American knows, that it fell from my shoulders unbidden."

The audience arose to its feet and cheered loudly.

"No American need apologize for being a candidate for office, least of all I," the nominee continued, "who had no desire to return to politics, but there came a summons no honorable man could refuse. I did assume the garb, call it motley, or what you will, of a seeker for office."

Our distinguished former Secretary of State has made some observations with respect to American rights. He makes a mistake in assuming or suggesting that the criticism of the administration's foreign policy is, as he puts it, "that our peace is a peace without honor, and if our national honor had been consulted, the United States would be fighting." We have no occasion to get into war with respect to known rights that any nation will respect if we know how to convince that

nation that we are firm in maintaining the principle of arbitration in industrial disputes."

"I like Mr. Olney's pen as a Secretary better than his pen as an apologist. We have no conviction, sign that we meant to enforce rights. That is the difference between reason in fact and reason in theory."

Documents Read as Proof.

Documents read by Mr. Hughes included an extract from a letter written by Mr. Wheeler, July 29 last, to the President, in which Mr. Wheeler expressed the hope that the President would "see fit to start an inquiry on behalf of the administration as to the near approach of an actual crisis," and in the following statement, attributed to Senator Newlands August 4:

"It was determined to have no hearing upon the subject, but to lay the resolution (Senate joint resolution 115, providing for an investigation by the interstate commerce commission) on the table. The committee deemed it inadvisable while proceedings were pending under the mediation and conciliation act to take up the subject of the interstate commerce commission. It was also deemed inadvisable to add to the present duties of the interstate commerce commission, which, as it is well known, is overloaded with work."

Telegram From Mr. Wheeler.

Then followed a telegram, dated August 4, from Mr. Wheeler to Senator Newlands as follows:

"Action of Senate committee at meeting today great disappointment. If resolution tabled because committee believed consideration should only follow declaration of strike, vote and deadlock next week, position might be tenable."

"Respectfully called to your attention that resolution upon which hearing was asked was passed by representatives of 300,000 business firms and corporations, who feel they have perfect right to ask for hearing upon a resolution in which they are vitally interested, and would be glad to be advised whether such hearing is positively denied or whether we may expect to be advised that hearing will be granted after reconvening of the interstate conference next Tuesday. If efforts of administration in meantime to bring about adjustment of differences fail."

"As chairman Senate committee, can you assure business interests of the country courtesy of hearing in time for action to be taken before Congress adjournment?"

The next document read by Mr. Hughes was an extract from a letter written August 6 by Mr. Wheeler to Senator Newlands as follows:

"The interstate commerce commission is the only body that can make such an inquiry with a result acceptable to the railroad employes, the railroad themselves and the general public. Any special commission might be more or less tinged with politics. The interstate commerce commission is sufficiently judicial in its character and independent in its operations to be above any political bias and would do the work in a highly acceptable manner."

Matter Classed as Paramount.

"It is true that the commission is already overburdened, but there is no other subject now before it which ranks in importance so high as averting a tie-up of our freight transportation, and inasmuch as a tie-up is imminent it would seem justifiable to place upon the commission the added burden of gathering the proper statistics for Congress and for the public as one of the most important tasks that could be delegated to it at this time."

A telegram from Mr. Wheeler to President Wilson, dated August 12, was next read by Mr. Hughes, as follows:

"Mr. President, I beg you to consider at this juncture in the railroad situation the desirability of putting the influence of the administration behind Senate joint resolution in its present or some modified form. Notwithstanding the obdurate attitude of both sides, they cannot, without reaping the condemnation of the whole public, disregard the request of Congress to withhold action until certain facts can be ascertained which bear directly upon the merits of the demands of the men or the contingent proposals of the roads, facts which must in any event be secured before an arbitration award upon any part of the differences could properly be reached."

"If the demands of the men are just, they will not suffer from a proper inquiry, nor will they be irreparably injured by continuing upon the present basis while inquiry is being made. If the contingent proposals of the roads are just, they will not be denied consideration. Facts have not entered into this controversy as bearing upon the merits of the proposals of either side. The public has been compelled to form its opinions upon unsupported or admittedly partisan statements, wholly contradictory."

Should Be No Hesitation.

"No one denies that the interstate commerce commission is overburdened; neither is there any doubt that the commission is the only existing federal agency having the equipment and experience requisite to the task of possessing the confidence of all parties to the controversy. As between taxing the commission a little further and enduring the suffering and loss of a general railroad strike, there can be no hesitation. The country will applaud the commission for laying aside for a time some of its present duties to meet this

emergency, the like of which has never before confronted the country."

Extracts from a letter dated August 22, from R. G. Rhett, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, to the President, were read, as follows:

"The railroad situation has assumed so grave a shape, in our judgment, as to render it now more imperative than at any past stage that the public should be informed of all the facts of the controversy, and thus have the opportunity of giving an unmistakable verdict as to the justice and fairness of the demands upon the public itself."

"It was in view of the many grave questions and serious complications

that our committee came to the conclusion that an impartial investigation of all these facts by an official body was essential. There are now two questions involved which are vital to the future prosperity of this country. The first is whether a determination of all vital points at issue shall succeed (not precede) a complete ascertainment of the underlying facts necessary to a just determination; and the second is whether the government has the right to insist upon the continuance of the public service during such investigation."

Situation Regarded Serious.

"The seriousness of the situation, as we now see it, is that the public is

informed of its helplessness to protect itself against certain demands, and, therefore, such demands must be acceded to by it. We are not in a position to say whether the demands are equitable and just or not. Our position is that the facts ought to be investigated, and if the demands are just they ought to be granted immediately upon the ascertainment of the facts on their merits, and not because either party is so powerful that it can dictate its terms to the public."

"We feel that there is no hope whatever of a permanent settlement of this question short of the method proposed, and we again appeal to you to use your power and influence to that end at this time."



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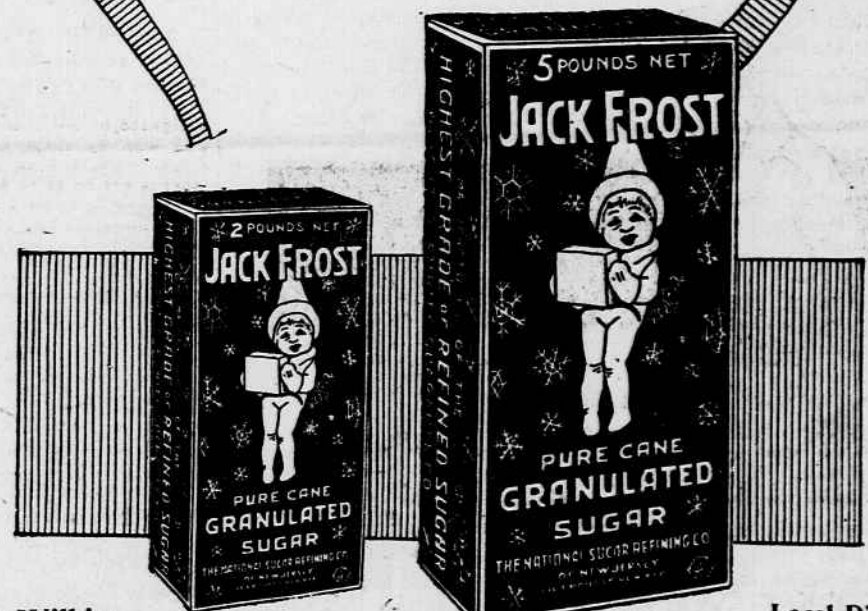
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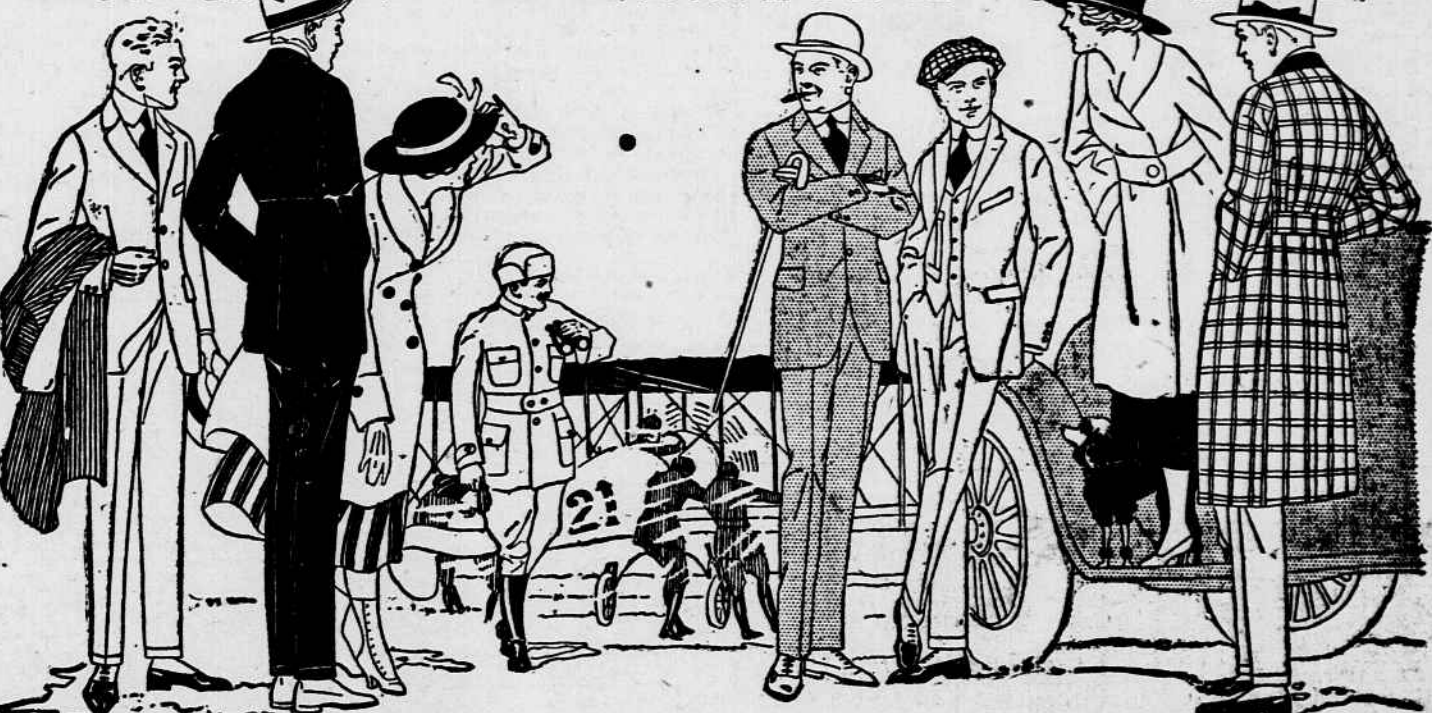
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